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(54) **Hair cutting apparatus**

(57) Hair cutting apparatus having a housing and a laser device (12) disposed in the housing and arranged to provide a beam of light impinging on hair to be cut, the beam of light being operative to cut said hair. The beam of light has a wavelength which is strongly absorbed by hair to be cut but not strongly absorbed by adjacent tissue, is generally not absorbed by human skin, is generally absorbed by hair in a predetermined colour range but is not generally absorbed by hair outside of said colour range.

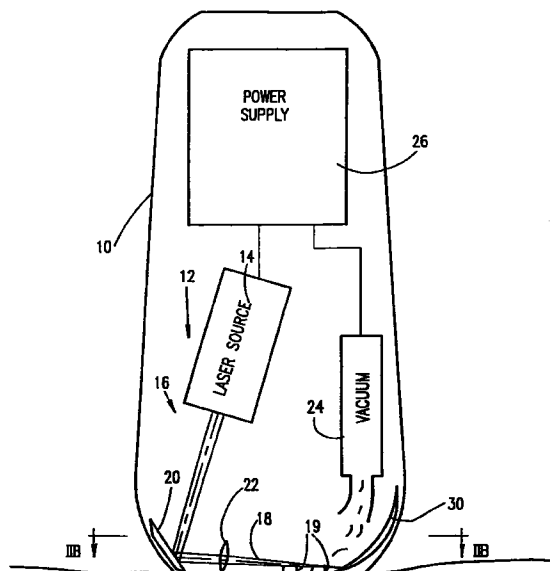


FIG. 2A

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 10 2708

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
P,X	W0 91 06406 A (SIMON) * page 1, line 26 - line 38 * * page 3, line 36 - page 5, line 25; figures 1-4 *	1	B26B19/00 B26B19/44
A	US 4 819 669 A (POLITZER) * the whole document *	1,10,12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			B26B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 26 August 1997	Examiner Herygers, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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